



CAWMC was founded January 1st, 1975

Volume 46, Issue 02

February 2020

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President's Message

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2019-2021

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Ah! February, month for love, -40 Celsius temperature and day-dreaming about all the travels we'll do in 2020, starting with the Ontario Numismatic Convention in May and that of the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association in July, in Halifax, NS. I don't know about you but, in my head at least, I am planning a 3 week trip out east, visiting relatives and, a first for me, seeing the Cabot Trail, Louisbourg, etc. and may be finding a couple of interesting woods in between.

It is still time to renew your membership if you have not already done so. A CAWMC renewal form can still be found in this issue of the Timber Talk (TT) or at http://woodsycorner.com/cawmc_only. If you have any questions on your membership status, please e-mail Al Munro at wood5cents@shaw.ca or phone Al at 403-273- 6133. The renewal form and dues must be mailed to Al's attention at Box 2643 Station M, Calgary, Alberta T2P 3C1, as we do not accept electronic payment at this time.

Our fellow member Judy Blackman wrote a series of articles pertaining to woods issued in 1975, the year of foundation of our Association. What a great way to celebrate this milestone! Thanks also to Dave Gillespie (ON), our series "Chips" continues to give you a bit of an insight in our history.

Speaking of "Chips", you will find the answers to January's quiz on page 4. I hope you had fun doing your research!

If you have a moment in February, please consider writing something for our publication. I am always thrilled to see what interest other collectors, and I learn something new every time I read one of your articles. I love it!

Thanks all, and Happy Valentine's Day!

France



Lion's Groceries for life

Featured Wood of the Month of February 2020



The wood is light green both sides, is 38 mm in diameter and is listed under Calgary as 8140 - 371.

Our free wood this month was acquired by Al Munro a few years ago and is one of a series of woods issued by the Lions Club of Calgary to promote their annual Stampede Lottery. It was handed out when someone purchased a ticket during the ten days of the Stampede. The actual number printed is unknown but suspected to be in the tens of thousands as over a million people visit the Stampede grounds each year.



For all the romantics out there...

I found this lovely wood in a box of “no longer appreciated” woods given to me by a friend some years ago. I believe that the box also contained spares owned by the late Jerry Remick III, and a world-renowned numismatist and collector of “fringe” numismatica. Jerry was also a personal friend of my husband and me.

This superb wood measures 38 mm and is heart shaped. On one side is a lovely composition of wingless cherubs on each side of a symbol that could represent anything from a vase, a flame or a foreign symbol. The cherubs are surrounded by “branches”. The composition also shows a heart with perhaps the letter “L” between the cherubs. This design is blue. The words *Love* and *Wooden Nickel* appear on the other side, bordered by a blue scallop.

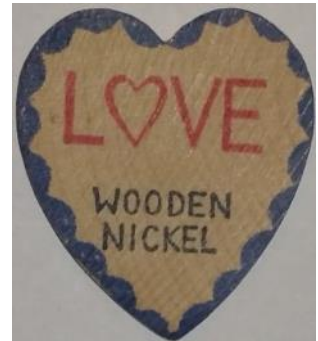
I had never seen anything like this before. The wood could be American, given the use of the word *Nickel*. The sides are also printed ↑↓, possibly due to the composition of the cherubs design and space allowed in a heart shaped wood, but also reminiscent of the way U.S. money is struck (↑↓), as opposed to Canadian money (↑↑).

Do you have any wooden love tokens in your collection? If you do, please send pictures of the wood to your editor (yours truly). I'll be happy to share the images with our members.

We all need love, anytime of the year!

Happy Valentine's Day!

France



Chips from the Woodpile

By Dave Gillespie.

Did you know that in the fall of 1975 the membership chairman asked all Charter members to include an extra \$1.00 with their renewal fee to cover the cost of an 8" x 10" wooden list of Charter Members. There were 45 Charter members to start the organization, so I would assume that at least that many were made? I wonder how many of these wooden lists still exist?

Members were reminded and asked to consider quality and quantity when having a personal wood made. The quality was to show how proud they were of the wood and quantity to establish availability.

In the spring of 1976 Frank Harding of Laura, Saskatchewan brought a very interesting display of Saskatchewan wood to the Calgary Spring Show and he planned to display it at the Torex Show in Toronto that same year.

Vic Hall from London, Ontario also wrote a very interesting article entitled: LONDON 1955 CENTENNIAL WOODEN NICKEL. Apparently, London was not 100 years old in 1955!!! The area was noted for fur trading and the north and south branches of the Thames River meet in the heart of the city. After the battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759, French rule in Canada ended, and the area became a closed Indian Territory. The first settlers arrived around 1783, many of them United Empire Loyalists.

In 1818 forty families took up land in London and in 1828 it was a Military Headquarters for Upper Canada. The Old Court House was completed in 1830. The community became a village in 1840, a town in 1848 and it's charter to become a city in 1855. So, that's the real story about London, Ontario.

By the summer of 1976, C.A.W.M.C. was seeing a steady growth in membership, a Constitution & By-Laws had been drafted and proposed, and Treasurer, Bruce Watt reported a healthy bank balance of \$ 282.18.

It was reported later that year that there were more than 700 known Canadian wooden nickels issued. This will come as a surprise to Norm Belsten. As of the last catalogue supplement issued and provided by him in 2019, he indicated that there are now over 9000 Canadian Woods listed.

With that in mind, just so you know and I am sure you have heard the expression many time "Your Two Cents Worth". It dates back to the nineteenth century, when if you wanted to write an opinion to the editor of a newsletter or complain to a politician the cost of mailing the letter was a two cent stamp. I know that the cost of a postage stamp has increased but with the internet at your finger tips it's never too late for your two cents worth to be heard. You have a voice and Timber Talk can be your medium by sitting down and writing to the Editor about your experiences, likes or dislikes within the hobby or an unexpected wooden money find whilst attended a coin show or bourse and searched through boxes on a dealer's table.

Chips from the Woodpile

Now for another of Tom Hudson's quiz questions:

1. *In what city was a wood distributed with all profits going to children living with disabilities ?*

'Til next time ... Let the Chips lie where they fall. Dave Gillespie



Answers to the Chips Quiz Questions from January 2020:

1. *Which city used boat lumber to make wooden nickels?*
2. *What town issued over 300,000 woods in 1958?*
3. *What wooden piece has "stolen from" on it?*
4. *In what town is "Mom's Bakery" located?*
5. *Where is "Boyd Drive-In" theatre?*

1. *Niagara Falls, Ontario*
2. *London, Ontario*
3. *Red Deer, Alberta - wood # 8800-03, 4a., 4b.*
4. *Lundbreck, Alberta - wood # 8600-001*
5. *Kelowna, British Columbia - wood # 9410-001*



CAWMC Archives in search of a good home.

Are you a collector of association's older newsletters?

We are searching for someone who would like to acquire older issues of Timber Talk, from the association's beginning in 1975 up to 2011, with a small gap of about 3 years, which could be traced and reproduced if needed. The archives would take less than a linear feet in your library.

Please drop me a line (france@waychison.com or to the address on front page) if you are interested.

France

Griffin's Guns & Antiques

by Judy Blackman CAWMC Life Member, FONA, KStE



the business.

This 1975 Griffin's Guns & Antiques 38 mm round wood is a bit of a mystery. At R R 4, Peterborough there were two businesses: Griffin's Guns & Antiques (which no longer exists) and Griffin's Greenhouses (which continues to operate and is just 5 km north of Trent University).

I cannot find anything on Griffin's Guns & Antiques after 1975. I did find this April 1, 1966, List No. 6 catalogue for



This wood is black ink on both sides, has rarity rating 2, and is 5715-003 in Norm Belsten's catalogue. There were 1,000 woods produced, but I have no idea the value, yet the wood reads "GOOD IN TRADE AT", which would imply there is something you benefit from when you take the wood to the place of business. I could not find any Kemp in Peterborough or R R Peterborough in connection with any gun shop or antiques store or market.

On June 21, 1975, Lawrence N. Griffin whose address was listed as R R 4, Peterboro died. He was born in 1919, and was in his 56th year of life. I found his grave marker (Lakefield Cemetery, plot R18L22#3). I have to wonder if he was indeed the Griffin behind Griffin's Guns & Antiques but without visiting the business registry or municipal licensing archives in Peterborough, I cannot confirm with any certainty. Now there is a Jean Phoebe Griffin (nee Miller) sharing plot R18L22 as #4 (possibly Lawrence's parents are #1 and 2). She was born in 1918 and died at the age of 79 at Peterborough Manor on June 21, 1998 and was buried June 24, 1998, and her next of kin was listed as her son Larry Griffin (Lawrence Griffin Junior).

I don't believe Griffin's Greenhouses ever had anything to do with the Griffin's Guns & Antiques; however, the family may be a relative of the family that owned Griffin's Guns & Antiques. I cannot even confirm the Greenhouses are on the same property the guns and antiques business was, or are simply adjacent.

Ann, Jack, Vikki and Kyle Griffin run the Greenhouses. Ann and Jack began a small, seasonal greenhouse at their home in May 1976 (less than a year after Lawrence's passing). Ann worked alone, a way to supplement her "stay at home mom" income for many years, with the children. Vikki and Kyle, and other family members helped as needed. Jack worked as a Sales Representative traveling on the road, and so he could only help on weekends. I don't know what product (or services) Jack sold. As the demand for their exceptional quality plants grew, Jack retired from sales in 1997 and began working the greenhouse business full time, alongside Ann, expanding the season to include fall plant offerings and winter décor. In 2001 Vikki left her teaching career in Belleville, moved back to Peterborough with her husband and their two children and "helped out" by becoming the General Manager. She continued to expand the business adding several series of workshops and becoming the "spokesperson" at speaking engagements, extending the reach of the business. In 2006 Kyle chose gardening over photo-journalism and he became the Greenhouse Manager, streamlining many processes and adding to the Display Garden. Working well together on a daily basis can be challenging, but the Griffins assure that happiness runs in the family, and ask "How can you be unhappy working amid such beauty, with family close by?" Jack and Ann's four grandchildren can often be seen helping too. Based on the information provided, I estimate Jack and Ann to be in their early 60s, and I suspect that Jack may have very well been Lawrence's son who would have been around 25 at the time of Lawrence's passing.

If I'm out to lunch on any or all of this speculation regarding this wood, please send a corrected explanation to the editor for publishing in a future *Timber Talk*. It would be nice to know for sure the story behind the wood!

Alaska Veterans Museum Woods

by David ("Rusty") Phillips

(this article and the DLA –Bob Sherrill article were previously published by David in the Alaskan publication Money to Burn)

The Alaska Veterans Museum, located in Anchorage, is a volunteer operated entity, with the mission to "Maintain a Museum for the inspiration, remembrance and preservation of the memory of Veterans and their sacrifices for America's Freedom." The emphasis obviously is on artifacts and stories from Veterans from Alaska and their service in and from Alaska. The statue below is of an Alaska Scout, and stands on display in front of the Museum, and there are some photos of some of the exhibits in the Museum.

The Museum had 500 woods produced in 2017, all of which had only the printing "ALASKA VETERANS MUSEUM GOOD FOR \$1.00 IN TRADE On Anything in Our Gift Shop Costing \$3.00 or More Limit One Token Per Item 333W. 4th Ave. #227 Anchorage, AK 99501 907-677-8802" on one side. The other side was left blank.

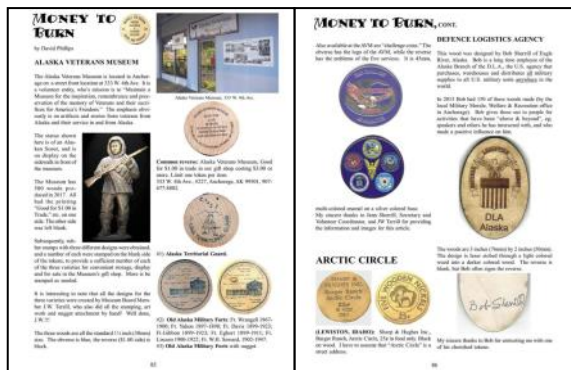
Subsequently, rubber stamps with two different designs were obtained, and a number of each were stamped on the blank side of the tokens, to provide a sufficient number of each of the three varieties for convenient storage, display and for sale in the Museum's gift shop (more will be done as needed).

It is interesting to note that the designs for the two varieties were created by Museum Board Member **J. W. ("Red") Terrill**, who also did the stamping, art work and gold nugget attachment on the third variety, by hand! Well done, J.W.! The three woods are all 1½" (38 mm) in size with blue ink on the obverse side and black on the reverse side.

- 1) Old Alaskan military forts
- 2) Alaska Territorial Guard
- 3) Old Alaskan military forts with gold nugget attached



My sincere thanks to **Jannis ("Jann") C. Schilling-Sherrill**, of Eagle River, who is the Alaska Veterans Museum Secretary and JBER Volunteer Coordinator and who is also the President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9785 MOC Auxiliary and one of the Post's Sunday school teachers, for providing me with photos, pamphlets and information about these tokens. Truly appreciated!



Defence Logistics Agency (Alaska) Wood

by David ("Rusty") Phillips

This wood was designed by **Bob Sherrill** of Eagle River, Alaska. Bob, in his role as Warfighter Support Representative and Alaska Command LNO, has been with the Alaska Branch of the Defence Logistics Agency (DLA) since June 2009. He is also a Retired Lt. Col. of the United States Air Force having served 28 years (1976-2004). The DLA is the US agency that purchases, warehouses and distributes all military supplies to all US Military units anywhere in the world! *[You can find Bob on LinkedIn and on Facebook]*



In 2015, Bob had 150 of these woods made by the local Military Morale, Welfare & Recreation office in Anchorage. Bob gives out these wooden tokens to people for activities that have been "above and beyond", e.g. speakers and others he has interacted with, and who made a positive influence on him.

A very thoughtful gesture by Bob, to recognize the recipients for their being helpful, progressive and a positive influence. They cherish the tokens and note it refreshes their resolve to be upbeat and to keep up the good work.

The woods are 3" (76 mm) in length by 2" (50 mm) in width. The obverse side is light brown / natural colour with dark brown lettering design showing incused from the dark brown layer below. The reverse is blank and of light brown / natural wood colour. Bob often signs the reverse (as shown in the image here).

My sincere thanks to Bob for entrusting me with one of his cherished tokens!



NEW YEARS WOODS. 1990 to 2000

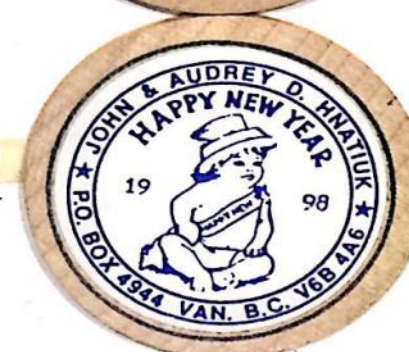
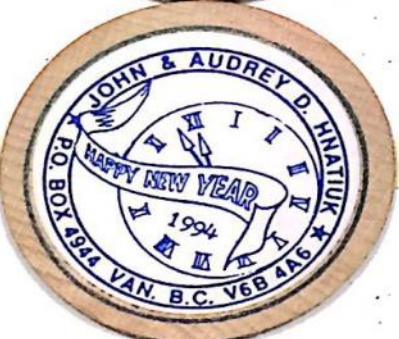
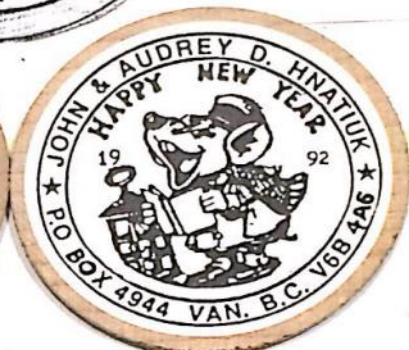
REV OF ALL WOODS IS .25¢ ACCEPT FOR THE \$2.00 WOOD
FOR THE YEAR 2000 - 11 WOODS IN TOTAL NO OTHER N.YRS
WERE ISSUED. PRICE IS \$12.00 PLUS \$2.00 POSTAGE.

DAVE HNATIUK. 4191 WALLER DR.
RICHMOND: BC. V7E 5P5

c.m.

604.318.1046 - 7 days a week

davehnatiuk@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS WOODS - 1987 to 1900

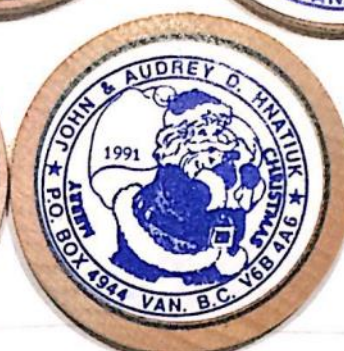
REV OF ALL WOODS IS .25¢ = 14 WOODS IN TOTAL NO OTHER
WOODS WERE ISSUED.-PRICE IS \$15.00 PLUS \$2.00 POSTAGE.

DAVE HNATIUK.4191 WALLER DR.
RICHMOND.BC. V7E 5P5

e.m.

604.318.1046 - 7 days a week

davehnatiuk@gmail.com



VALENTINES WOODS.-1900 to 2000

REV OF ALL WOODS IS .50¢ ACCEPT FOR THE \$2.00 WOOD
FOR THE YEAR 2000 - 11 WOODS IN TOTAL NO OTHER N.YRS
WERE ISSUED. PRICE IS \$12.00 PLUS \$2.00 POSTAGE.

DAVE HNATIUK. 4191 WALLER DR.
RICHMOND. BC. V7E 5P5

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